

Unclassified

STD/SIMS(2004)13



Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Economiques
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

30-Mar-2004

English - Or. English

**STATISTICS DIRECTORATE
STATISTICAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT DIVISION**

**STD/SIMS(2004)13
Unclassified**

**Abstract of the Presentation "Statistical Workflow with XML and Open Source"
Federal Statistical Office Germany**

EXPERT GROUP ON STATISTICAL DATA AND METADATA EXCHANGE

**1-2 April 2004
Château de la Muette, Paris**

JT00161156

**Document complet disponible sur OLIS dans son format d'origine
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English - Or. English

ABSTRACT OF THE PRESENTATION STATISTICAL WORKFLOW WITH XML AND OPEN SOURCE

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Abstract

The Federal Statistical Office, Germany (FSO) is currently rebuilding its overall statistical workflow. The current main areas of activity are data collection, survey management and data editing. The Extensible Markup Language (XML) and Open Source Software (OSS) are central elements of these activities.

Two families of XML document types are being developed: *TabML* (Table Markup Language) for describing statistical tables and *DatML* (Data Markup Language) for describing all other statistical data, including raw data, and metadata objects used in statistical production.

Open Source software (OSS) is generally used for XML processing and in Internet application domains, such as web servers and servlet engines. OSS is also gaining ground in the areas of SQL databases and application servers, and in Java software development and management. Decisions have been taken to strategically position some of these products as standards within the SW landscape at the FSO, based on the positive experience gained in dedicated projects like the Federal Elections for the *Bundestag* (the German Parliament) in 2002.

As a consequence, FSO clearly preferences solutions based on XML and OSS for the future exchange of data and metadata with the OECD and other organisations.